re the Application of: OKU et al

AF/ 2823

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: K. Nguyen

Art Unit: 2823

Serial No.: 09/903,764

Filed: July 13, 2001

For: FILM FORMING METHOD,

> SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE MANUFACTURING METHOD

> > RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF JUNE 8, 2004

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The rejections under 35 USC 102(a) and 35 USC 103, as set out in the office action of June 8, 2004 are both based on European Application Publication No. 1,174,915 - "Junichi." Both the rejections are respectfully traversed for the reason that Junichi is not prior art against the captioned application. Junichi was published January 23, 2002, well after the July 13, 2001 filing date to which the present invention is entitled.